

# SAINT PATRICK'S CHURCH

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## LATEST NEWS

28TH NOVEMBER 2021  
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
9am Sung Parish Mass

Mon 29<sup>th</sup> Nov - No Mass

Tue 30<sup>th</sup> Nov - Feast of St Andrew  
5pm Mass (Chippenham)

Wed 1<sup>st</sup> Dec - St Alexander Bryant M  
11.15am Eucharistic Adoration  
& Synod Prayer / Meditation  
12noon Mass (Corsham)

Thur 2<sup>nd</sup> Dec - Weekday of Advent  
12.15pm Funeral Mass of Thomas  
Lynch RIP (Chippenham)

Fri 3<sup>rd</sup> Dec - St Francis Xavier Pr  
12noon Funeral Mass of George  
Ingleby RIP (Corsham)

Sat 4<sup>th</sup> Dec - Saint Osmund Bp

5<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2021  
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
9am Sung Parish Mass

Confessions are heard after weekday  
mass or by appointment.

### THE WORD THIS SUNDAY

*(Sunday Readings are available at the end of this bulletin)*

**Jeremiah 33: 14-16** In the memory of Israel and Judah, their early king David had set the standards for all later kings. The people thought their national fortunes rose and fell with the virtue of their kings. In a time of national peril, Jeremiah predicts what a new, good king, descended from David, will do for the nation.

**1 Thessalonians 3:12-4:2** Saint Paul wrote his first letter to the Thessalonians at an early time when he and they believed Jesus was soon to come again. Here Paul gives them two ways to get ready.

**Luke 21: 25-28.34-36** Today's gospel also preserves a memory of early Christians' expectation that the Son of Man would come again, to judge the world. Hear the differences between what the prepared can expect and what the unprepared must face.

**THE SEASON OF ADVENT** Beginning the Church's liturgical year, Advent (from, "ad-venire" in Latin or "to come to") is the season encompassing the four Sundays (and weekdays) leading up to the celebration of Christmas. The Advent season is a time of preparation that directs our hearts and minds to Christ's second coming at the end of time and to the anniversary of Our Lord's birth on Christmas. From the earliest days of the Church, people have been fascinated by Jesus' promise to come back. But the scripture readings during Advent tell us not to waste our time with predictions. Advent is not about speculation. Our Advent readings call us to be alert and ready, not weighted down and distracted by the cares of this world (Lk

21:34-36). Like Lent, the liturgical colour for Advent is purple since both are seasons that prepare us for great feast days. Advent also includes an element of penance in the sense of preparing, quieting, and disciplining our hearts for the full joy of Christmas. It is however a season of joy expectancy and anticipation. The final days of Advent, from December 17 to December 24, we focus on our preparation for the celebrations of the Nativity of our Lord at Christmas. In particular, the "O" Antiphons are sung during this period and have been by the Church since at least the eighth century. They are a magnificent theology that uses ancient biblical imagery



drawn from the messianic hopes of the Old Testament to proclaim the coming of Christ as the fulfilment not only of Old Testament hopes, but of present ones as well. Advent devotions including the Advent wreath, remind us of the meaning of the season. Advent calendars can help you fully enter into the season with daily activity and prayer suggestions to prepare you spiritually for the birth of Jesus Christ.

**MASS OBLIGATION** In the statement issued last weekend, the Bishops of England and Wales said: 'At this time, we recognise that for some people there may be certain factors which hinder

attendance at Sunday Mass. The pandemic is clearly not over. The risk of infection is still present. For some, there is legitimate fear in gathering together. As your bishops, we recognise that these prevailing circumstances suggest that not everyone is yet in the position to fulfil the absolute duty to attend freely Sunday Mass.' The obligation to attend mass on Sundays and Holydays remains suspended.

**SYNOD 2021/ 2023** Please visit the diocesan website for latest resources and information for the Synodal journey we are all invited to participate in, including videos of the keynote talks. As part of our Advent Journey and our response to the call to prepare for the Synod 2023, there will be a time of prayer and reflection on the Synod themes of Communion, Participation and Mission, on Wednesdays December 1st, 8th, and 15<sup>th</sup> from 11.15am to 12noon with Eucharistic adoration. Francis invites everyone to participate in the 2023 Synod Process. In prayer we are asked to listen to each other's hopes, dreams and concerns for the Church in the future. During Advent we will spend time listening to God first. Then we will gather in January to listen to the community and a parish response will be sent to Bishop Declan by the end of February. This process will be guided by Fr Michael and the PPC.

**THANK YOU** to Jane Wragg for inscribing the remembrance plates in our new hymnals. We hope to be using them soon. They have all now been placed in Church.

**ASK YOUR MP TO SUPPORT THE ABORTION AMENDMENTS** Please urgently contact your MP asking them to support proposed law changes to ban sex-selective abortion, reduce the abortion time limit and stop the abortion of babies with disabilities right up to birth. It only takes 30 seconds here: <https://righttolife.org.uk/takeactionabortion>

**MARY'S MEALS DOUBLE THE LOVE** From November to January, every gift given to Mary's Meals will be doubled by a group of generous supporters, up to £1.6m. This means a gift of just £15.90 will feed, not one, but two children, a life-changing daily school meal for a whole school year! Your kindness brings joy to more than two million children around the world who we serve – including those affected by natural disasters, conflict and the ongoing Covid pandemic. For more information, please visit [www.marysmeals.org.uk](http://www.marysmeals.org.uk).

**CHRISTMAS MASSES** Please see the Christmas Leaflet for masses this Season and details of booking via Eventbrite. Christmas Eve 9pm and Christmas Day 9pm and the Sunday of the Feast of the Holy Family. [www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/st-patricks-catholic-church-corsham-30646123644](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/st-patricks-catholic-church-corsham-30646123644)

**MISSIO** is excited to share opportunities to connect and reflect throughout the Season of Advent. Our online reflections and a mission-focused online Advent Calendar are designed to bring communities across England and Wales together in prayer. Starting on 26 November 2021 and taking place every Friday at 10:30am, the online reflections will be shared from the Missio chapel in Eccleston Square. Each week will feature a guest speaker who will be focusing on how Advent is celebrated around the world, whilst reflecting on the upcoming Sunday readings. Supporters can join in by watching the livestream at [www.YouTube.com/MissioUK](http://www.YouTube.com/MissioUK) and the reflections will be available to watch shortly after at [www.missio.org.uk/livesstreamed/](http://www.missio.org.uk/livesstreamed/)

**ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT** Each week, we have a wonderful opportunity to come into Our Lord's presence in the Holy Eucharist. The Blessed Sacrament is exposed for adoration and quiet prayer before midweek mass. Come into the peace and stillness of the Lord. Come and rest with the Lord a while in his healing presence. The gift of the Eucharist is at the very heart of our Catholic faith.

**STAYING SAFE** As we have several clinically extremely vulnerable people in our Church family, we ask that you continue to sanitise your hands on entering the Church, wear a mask, socially distance and observe our one-way system. Thank you.

**CLEANING JOB VACANCY** St Patrick's Church are seeking to employ a hall cleaner with experience of vacuuming, brushing, mopping, polishing, cleaning toilets and washrooms, etc. 2 hours per week on Thursdays (subject to change depending on bookings) with the flexibility of additional monthly £9.50 per hour, starting ASAP. A full job description is available upon request from [treasurer.corsham.stpatrick@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:treasurer.corsham.stpatrick@cliftondiocese.com)

**THE CATH & PAT PRAYER GROUP/SYNOD DISCUSSION** will now not be meeting on Mondays as circulated. The parish will guide preparation for the Synod after discussion with the PPC.

**RUH** If you or a loved one is going into the Royal United Hospital, please let the RUH Chaplaincy know on 01225 428331 or email [ruh-tr.chaplainy@nhs.net](mailto:ruh-tr.chaplainy@nhs.net).

### PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

**The Sick:** Ann Saba: Coleen Milne, Tony Tredgett, Richard Keat, Karen Lucas, Sheila Taylor, Christopher Brawl, Julia Wright, Pauline Feeney, Margaret Brown, Lindsay Price. Pray for all suffering with Coronavirus, all in our hospitals, nursing homes and those who care for them.

**Recently Departed:** George Ingleby RIP

**The Holy Father's November Prayer Intention:** People Who Suffer from Depression  
We pray that people who suffer from depression or burn-out will find support and a light that opens them up to life.

**Diocesan Prayer Link:** Sacred Heart, Tisbury with Wardour

**Christians in Corsham Prayer Link:** Corsham Baptist Community

## December – Month of the Immaculate Conception



The month of December is dedicated to the Immaculate Conception, which is celebrated on December 8. From all eternity God chose with infinite wisdom the woman who would be the Mother of His divine Son. To prepare for the Word Incarnate a spotless and holy tabernacle, God created Mary in grace and endowed her from the moment of her conception with all the perfections suited to her exalted dignity. St Thomas teaches that through her intimacy with Christ, the principle of grace, she possessed beyond all creatures a fullness of divine life.

### **The Catechism of the Catholic Church says of the Immaculate Conception of Mary:**

**490.** *To become the mother of the Saviour, Mary “was enriched by God with gifts appropriate to such a role”. The angel Gabriel at the moment of the annunciation salutes her as “full of grace”. In fact, in order for Mary to be able to give the free assent of her faith to the announcement of her vocation, it was necessary that she be wholly borne by God’s grace.*

**491.** *Through the centuries the Church has become ever more aware that Mary, “full of grace” through God, was redeemed from the moment of her conception. That is what the dogma of the Immaculate Conception confesses, as Pope Pius IX proclaimed in 1844: “The most Blessed Virgin Mary was, from the first moment of her conception, by a singular grace and privilege of almighty God and by virtue of the merits of Jesus Christ, Savior of the human race, preserved immune from all stain of original sin.” (Pius IX, *Ineffabilis Deus*, 1854.)*

**492.** *The “splendour of an entirely unique holiness” by which Mary is “enriched from the first instant of her conception” comes wholly from Christ – she is “redeemed, in a more exalted fashion, by reason of the merits of her Son.” The Father blessed Mary more than any other created person “in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places” and chose her “in Christ before the foundation of the world, to be holy and blameless before him in love.”*

**493.** *The Fathers of the Eastern tradition call the Mother of God “the All-Holy” (Panagia) and celebrate her as “free from any stain of sin, as though fashioned by the Holy Spirit and formed as a new creature”.*

### **Prayer of Pope Francis to the Immaculate Conception**

O Mary, our Immaculate Mother,  
On your feast day I come to you,  
And I come not alone:  
I bring with me all those with whom your Son entrusted to me,  
In this city of Rome and in the entire world,  
That you may bless them and preserve them from harm.  
I bring to you, Mother, children,  
Especially those who are alone, abandoned,  
And for this reason are tricked and exploited.  
I bring to you, Mother, families,  
Who carry forward life and society  
With their daily and hidden efforts;  
In a special way the families who struggle the most  
For their many internal and external problems.  
I bring to you, Mother, all workers, both men and women,  
And I entrust to you especially those who, out of need,  
Are forced to work in an unworthy profession  
And those who have lost work or are unable to find it.

We are in need of your immaculate gaze,  
To rediscover the ability to look upon persons and things  
With respect and awareness,  
Without egotistical or hypocritical interests.  
We are in need of your immaculate heart,  
To love freely,  
Without secondary aims but seeking the good of the other,  
With simplicity and sincerity, renouncing masks and tricks.  
We are in need of your immaculate hands,  
To caress with tenderness,  
To touch the flesh of Jesus  
In our poor, sick, or despised brethren,  
To raise up those who have fallen and support those who waver.  
We are in need of your immaculate feet,  
To go toward those who know not how to make the first step,  
To walk on the paths of those who are lost,  
To find those who feel alone.  
We thank you, O Mother, because in showing yourself to us  
You free us of all stain of sin;  
You remind us that what comes first is the grace of God,  
The love of Jesus Christ who gave his life for us,  
The strength of the Holy Spirit which renews all things.  
Let us not give in to discouragement,  
But, trusting in your constant help,  
Let us engage ourselves fully in renewal of self,  
Of this city and of the entire world.  
Pray for us, Holy Mother of God!

## **A Prayer of Spiritual Communion**



My Jesus, I believe that You are really present in the Most Holy Sacrament of the altar. I love You above all things and I desire You in my soul. As I cannot receive you sacramentally now, come at least spiritually into my heart. And, as You have already come, I embrace You and unite myself wholly to You.  
Let me never be separated from You.

## **An Act of Contrition**

O my God, I am heartily sorry for having offended you: and I detest my sins most sincerely because they displease You, my God, who are so deserving of all my love for Your infinite goodness and most amiable perfections: and I firmly purpose by Your holy grace never more to offend You,  
to avoid all occasions of sin and amend my life. Amen.  
I further resolve and promise to go to sacramental confession as soon as practicably possible.

# THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

## First Sunday of Advent Year C

Also available to download in 13 different languages at [www.virc.at](http://www.virc.at)



### First reading

*A reading from the prophet Jeremiah*

Jeremiah 33:14-16

See, the days are coming – it is the Lord who speaks – when I am going to fulfil the promise I made to the House of Israel and the House of Judah:

‘In those days and at that time,  
I will make a virtuous Branch grow for David,  
who shall practise honesty and integrity in the land.  
In those days Judah shall be saved  
and Israel shall dwell in confidence.  
And this is the name the city will be called:  
The-Lord-our-integrity.’

The word of the Lord.

### Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 24(25):4-5,8-9,10,14

*To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.*

Lord, make me know your ways.  
Lord, teach me your paths.  
Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:  
for you are God my saviour.

The Lord is good and upright.  
He shows the path to those who stray,  
He guides the humble in the right path,  
He teaches his way to the poor.

His ways are faithfulness and love

for those who keep his covenant and law.  
The Lord's friendship is for those who revere him;  
to them he reveals his covenant.

## **Second reading**

**1 Thessalonians 3:12-4:2**

*A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians*

May the Lord be generous in increasing your love and make you love one another and the whole human race as much as we love you. And may he so confirm your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless in the sight of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus Christ comes with all his saints.

Finally, brothers, we urge you and appeal to you in the Lord Jesus to make more and more progress in the kind of life that you are meant to live: the life that God wants, as you learnt from us, and as you are already living it. You have not forgotten the instructions we gave you on the authority of the Lord Jesus.

The word of the Lord.

## **Gospel Acclamation**

**Ps84:8**

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Let us see, O Lord, your mercy  
and give us your saving help.  
Alleluia!

## **Gospel**

**Luke 21:25-28,34-36**

*A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke*

Jesus said to his disciples: 'There will be signs in the sun and moon and stars; on earth nations in agony, bewildered by the clamour of the ocean and its waves; men dying of fear as they await what menaces the world, for the powers of heaven will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. When these things begin to take place, stand erect, hold your heads high, because your liberation is near at hand.

'Watch yourselves, or your hearts will be coarsened with debauchery and drunkenness and the cares of life, and that day will be sprung on you suddenly, like a trap. For it will come down on every living man on the face of the earth. Stay awake, praying at all times for the strength to survive all that is going to happen, and to stand with confidence before the Son of Man.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

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